



Despite the cold, sophomores wait outside Kresge Auditorium for the Class of 2014 Ring Premiere last Friday evening. Some stood in line for hours in the hopes of getting a free gift.

CHRISTOPHER A. MAYNOR—THE TECH

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

2014's Brass Rat design revealed

Clutching candle and compass, beaver sits on Harvard bridge

By Anne Cai

NEWS EDITOR

By 4 p.m. Friday afternoon, the promise of a surprise gift for the first 50 people in line for Ring Premiere had lured a crowd of sophomores to the doors of Kresge. Later that evening, we discovered that the first ones there got their purple tickets and went on their merry way, instead of having to jostle each other outside the door for four hours.

Half an hour before the doors opened, I was in line in the windy cold with several hundred other 2014s waiting to

see our unique brass rat design. I was amused by the number of people trying to find their friends by running out of the line onto Kresge Oval and waving — when everyone did the same, it became hilariously counterproductive.

When we were finally let in, we shoved our way through the doors to claim our favorite seats in the auditorium. For my friends and I, that meant back aisle seats near the doors, anticipating a stampede for gift bags afterwards. From our vantage point in the back, we saw at

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Technology exposition or career fair?

Techfair 2012 attracted companies and student projects last week

By Isabella Wei

STAFF REPORTER

Photography startup Lytro came to Techfair this year to show off its new 3D camera, whose pictures can be refocused after the shot. They invited students for a hands-on demo of the unreleased product — what they didn't expect was the deluge of resumes.

"It was great to have students take cameras out and have them excited about the technology," Lytro's Director of Photography Eric Cheng said. But, he added, "it ended up being half-recruiting because there were so many people handing [us] resumes."

Techfair began seven years ago as a student-run trade show, but it is in some ways a job fair too. Its website has place to submit resumes and many students treat the event as a chance to mingle with potential employers.

This year, organizers say they tried to focus on the technology. The even-

tual goal, according to Managing Director Susie R. Fu '12, is to grow into the Consumer Electronics Show of the east coast. "[As MIT] we are the center of technology on the east coast and we should have events where we show off cool things," she said.

On Monday, Feb. 6 in Rockwell Cage, 60 companies and 31 different student projects were on display. Bose had a wand that could project a pinpoint beam of sound. Nest had its learning thermostat, which programs itself to adjust the temperature based on the user habits. Among the student projects were DDR Tetris, the Hat Coil, the Rideable Hexapod, electric instruments, and the beginnings of an Iron Man suit.

Jose Cong, a Nest representative, said the fair was great place to meet students they may want to keep in touch with, but for them it was not a recruiting event. Though they did receive several resumes, they mostly had conversations with students who expressed in-

terest in the technology.

A quick survey of company representatives indicated positive responses to Techfair — everyone asked said that they would love to come back. Companies seemed to like the idea of combining a tech expo with a career fair, explaining that it gave them a good sense of MIT. Pete Hopkins, the representative for Twitter, said, "When I'm talking to students while seeing a guy go by with a Tesla coil on his head, I know exactly where I am — MIT."

Student reactions to Techfair varied. Maksim Kolyshev '14 was dazzled by the technology. "Techfair is the future of innovation," he gushed. "Come to Techfair and the products will blow your mind." Others, sold on the job fair aspect of the event, were frustrated that there were not more employment opportunities.

"If you're not Course 6 or Course 2 don't bother coming," Jeffrey H. Lin '13

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MITx starts with 6.002x

Anybody can enroll, course offered for free

By Ethan A. Solomon

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

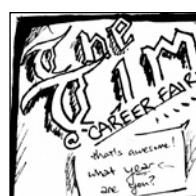
6.002 (Circuits and Electronics) will be the first course offered via MITx, an online educational initiative announced late last year that has seen widespread praise but also faces questions from some faculty members. MIT has billed MITx as a way to enhance the on-campus education for MIT students and simultaneously offer MIT courses, largely free, to the rest of the world.

Registration for 6.002x — which is essentially the same course material as MIT's 6.002 but delivered online — opened yesterday at <http://mitx>.

mit.edu. The course will offer a certificate of completion for those who pass it, and though MITx will charge for certification in the future, 6.002x's will be free since the course is still a prototype.

6.002x will consist of 5-10 minute video lectures, demonstrations, homework assignments, simulated laboratories, and exams — all graded automatically — according to a press release from the MIT News Office. It is being taught by CSAIL Director Anant Agarwal, Christopher J. Terman PhD '83, Gerald J. Sussman '68, and Piotr Mitros '04.

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DO YOU LIKE FROSH?

It's OK. Neither do
recruiters.
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WHAT SHOULD YOU DO THIS VALENTINE'S?

Chacha weighs in on
the holiday.

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BEING HEALTHY: STARTING FRESH

How to fit fitness into
your life.

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New Jersey senate votes to legalize same-sex marriage

TRENTON, N.J. — The New Jersey state Senate voted Monday to legalize same-sex marriage, a significant shift in support from two years ago, when a similar measure failed.

The legislation faces a vote Thursday in the state Assembly, but even if that chamber passes the measure, Gov. Chris Christie, who favors holding a referendum on the issue, has said he will veto it.

But advocates hailed the Senate vote as a huge advance, noting that they won 10 more votes than two years ago. And both supporters and opponents said they were surprised by the margin: The bill needed 21 votes to succeed and passed 24-16.

"The margin brought the notion of an override out of fantasyland," said Steven Goldstein, chairman of Garden State Equality, a gay rights group. "Before today, I would have said the chances of an override were one in a million. Now I'd say it's about 1 in 2."

Overriding the anticipated veto would require the approval of two-thirds of both houses, which in the Senate translates to 27 votes. But Democrats, who have made the bill their top priority this year, argue that they have nearly two years — until the session ends on Jan. 14, 2014 — to muster just three more votes than they won Monday.

—Kate Zernike, The New York Times

In Toronto, celebrating the Knicks' newest star

OTTAWA, Ontario — The Toronto Raptors' Asian Heritage Nights are usually scheduled to coincide with Chinese New Year. This year's event, which takes place Tuesday, will feature the New York Knicks. And the Taiwanese ancestry of the team's unexpected success story, Jeremy Lin, has not escaped Chinese residents, who make up a little more than 11 percent of Toronto's population.

Although the game is on Valentine's Day, Beth Robertson, the senior vice president for ticket sales and services at Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment, expects that all 18,000 seats at Air Canada Centre will be sold. The team has only had two other sellouts in its 13 home games. Robertson gives Lin some of the credit for 3,000 tickets the Raptors have sold since Friday.

Clement Chu, the president of the Chinese Canadian Youth Athletics Association, which sold 300 discounted group tickets, said that Lin's success had created "a buzz" in his organization's basketball programs for children.

—Ian Austen, The New York Times

Sierra Club secretly accepted millions, angering some allies

The recent disclosure of the Sierra Club's secret acceptance of \$26 million in donations from people associated with a natural gas company has revived an uncomfortable debate among environmental groups about corporate donations and transparency.

The gifts from the company, Chesapeake Energy, have drawn criticism from some environmentalists. "Sleeping with the enemy" was a comment much forwarded on Twitter posts about the undisclosed arrangement.

"Runners shouldn't smoke, priests shouldn't touch the kids, and environmentalists should never take money from polluters," John Passacantando, a former director of Greenpeace who is now an environmental consultant, said in an interview. Yet the donations to the Sierra Club, reported by *Time Magazine's* Ecocentric blog and a blog called Corporate Crime Reporter, have plenty of precedents. Between 2004 and 2006, the National Audubon Society accepted \$2.1 million from the chemical giant Monsanto to find a strategy for ensuring the safety of waterfowl near industrial farms using pesticides, for example.

—Felicity Barringer, The New York Times

House Republicans yield on a payroll tax cut

By Jennifer Steinhauer

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Congressional Republicans on Monday backed down from a demand that a payroll tax holiday be paid for with reductions in other programs, clearing the way for an extension of the tax cut for 160 million Americans through 2012.

After months of partisan confrontation that left the tax break hanging in the balance, Republicans suddenly offered to extend the 2-percentage-point cut while continuing to haggle over added unemployment benefits and a measure to prevent a drop in fees paid to doctors by Medicare. The payroll tax holiday and jobless benefits expire at month's end, when doctors would face a 27 percent reduction in Medicare reimbursements.

The decision, announced by House Republican leaders, was a surprise after weeks of Republicans' insistence that they would not accept extensions to any of the three benefits without offsetting the costs.

But the move underscored the desire of many Republicans — eager to blunt Democratic accusations that they do not support tax cuts for middle-class Americans — to put the tax cut fight behind them in an election year.

As the House-Senate committee charged with coming up with a plan to extend the benefits continued to negotiate, Republican leaders said they would introduce legislation this week to extend the payroll tax cut by itself, allowing the conference members to negotiate the unemployment proposal and the Medicare measure, known as the "doc fix."

Accusing Senate Democrats and President Barack Obama of stalling negotiations, House Speaker John A. Boehner of Ohio said in a statement with Rep. Eric Cantor of Virginia, the majority leader, and Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California, the House whip, that "House Republicans will introduce a backup plan that would simply extend the payroll tax holiday for the remainder of the year while the conference negotiations con-

tinued regarding offsets, unemployment insurance, and the "doc fix." If Democrats continue to refuse to negotiate in good faith, Republicans may schedule this measure for House consideration later this week pending a conversation with our members."

By separating the payroll tax issue from unemployment benefits, Republicans have somewhat boxed in Democrats, forcing them to decide whether to accept a stand-alone tax cut that touches nearly every working American — and is generally more popular than the additional unemployment insurance — or hold out for a package that covers all three programs, at a cost of about \$160 billion. Democrats, also eager to extend unemployment pay, were reluctant to embrace the idea of resolving the payroll tax fight separately.

Rep. Chris Van Hollen of Maryland, one of the Democratic negotiators, said Monday that the payroll tax extension should "travel together" with an extension of unemployment benefits and Medicare payment legislation.

Apple, in shift, pushes an audit of sites in China

By Charles Duhigg
and Nick Wingfield

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Responding to a growing outcry over conditions at its overseas factories, Apple said Monday that an outside organization had begun to audit working conditions at the plants where the bulk of iPhones, iPads and other Apple products are built, and that the group would make its findings public.

For years, Apple has resisted calls for independent scrutiny of the suppliers that make its electronics. But for the first time it has begun divulging information that it once considered secret, following criticism that included coordinated protests last week at Apple stores and investigative reports about punishing conditions inside some factories.

Corporate analysts say Apple's shifts could incite widespread

changes throughout the electronics industry, since a lot of companies use the same suppliers. They also said it seemed calculated to forestall the kind of public relations problems over labor issues that have afflicted companies like Nike, Gap and Disney.

"This is a really big deal," said Sasha Lezhnev at the Enough Project, a group focused on corporate accountability. "The whole industry has to follow whatever Apple does."

But it is unclear if the efforts by Apple, whose \$469 billion market value is the largest of any company in the world, will be enough to quiet its critics, some of whom had urged Apple to work with Chinese monitoring organizations with direct knowledge of its suppliers in China.

Although some labor groups applauded Monday's announcement, others said that the outside

auditor Apple chose, the Fair Labor Association, which is based in Washington, was not sufficiently independent. And some critics questioned whether the inspections — Apple said the manufacturers had agreed to do them voluntarily — would curtail problems or merely help Apple deflect criticism.

Apple, in a statement, said that the Fair Labor Association was an independent organization that had been given "unrestricted access" to the company's suppliers. The first inspections, Apple said, were conducted Monday at a factory in Shenzhen, China, known as Foxconn City, one of the largest plants within China.

Human rights advocates have long said that Foxconn City's 230,000 employees are subjected to long hours, coerced overtime and harsh working conditions, all of which Foxconn disputes.

WEATHER

Warmth and lack of snow will continue this week

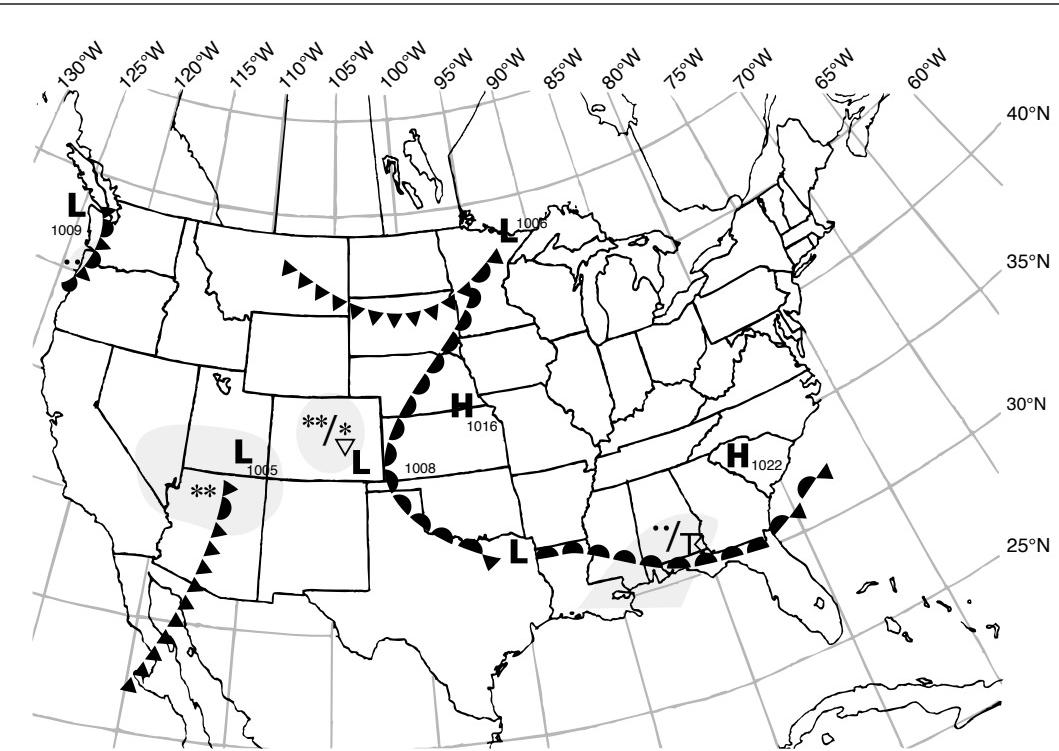
By Allison A. Wing
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

With the exception of a few cold spurts (like this past Sunday), this winter has been marked by a general trend of above average temperatures. This weather will continue this week, with high temperatures in the mid to upper 40s (8°C); 10°F (-12°C) above normal. It has also been a dry winter, with only 2.74" of precipitation occurring since Jan. 1, compared to a climatological value of 4.67". The first two weeks of February have also been unusually dry, with only

0.07" of precipitation compared to a usual month-to-date value of 1.31". Not only has this winter featured a lack of precipitation — Boston has had a lack of snowfall in particular. Since Dec. 1, Boston has recorded 6.8" of snow, far less than the climatological value of 26.5" (and minuscule, compared with last season's 71.2"). Unfortunately for those hoping for snow, it doesn't appear to be in the cards this week. There is a system coming through on Thursday and Friday that should bring measurable precipitation, but it looks to be only in the form of rain.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy. High 46°F (8°C). West winds at 5–10 mph.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain/snow showers. Low 30°F (-1°C). West winds at 3–8 mph.
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy. High of 48°F (9°C). Low 34°F (1°C). Calm, then south winds at 3–8 mph.
Thursday: Cloudy with rain showers. High 48°F (9°C). Low 38°F (3°C). North winds shifting to south winds at 3–8 mph.
Friday: Cloudy with rain showers. High 49°F (9°C). Low 30°F (-1°C). East winds at 5–10 mph shifting to northwest winds at 10–15 mph.



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Tuesday, February 14, 2012, Valentine's Day

Weather Systems		Weather Fronts		Precipitation Symbols		Other Symbols	
H	High Pressure	- - -	Trough	Snow	Rain	Fog	
L	Low Pressure	████████	Warm Front	*	•	Thunderstorm	
§	Hurricane	▲▲▲▲	Cold Front	△	•	Haze	
		▲▲▲	Stationary Front	Moderate	**	MIT Meteorology Staff	
		▲		Heavy	***	and The Tech	

Athens shaken by riots after vote for austerity

By Niki Kitsantonis
and Rachel Donadio
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ATHENS, Greece — The acrid stench of tear gas permeated central Athens on Monday and the husks of burnt-out buildings still smoldered after a night of rioting following the Greek Parliament's vote to approve austerity measures in exchange for more rescue financing.

In the aftermath, municipal workers were sweeping up broken glass while Greek political leaders were surveying the political damage following the expulsion of dozens of lawmakers from their parties, after the legislators had broken ranks on the austerity vote ahead of early national elections. On Monday the gov-

ernment spokesman, Pantelis Kapisis, said the elections would be held in April.

About 150 stores were vandalized and looted, and about 45 buildings — including neoclassical structures, two historic movie theaters, banks and cafes — were seriously burnt, many beyond repair, according to the Athens Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The chamber estimated the losses in the "tens of millions" of dollars. The public order minister, Christos Papoutsis, called the damage part of "an organized plan of arson and looting."

More than 80,000 people came out to protest peacefully on Sunday, before scores of violent hooded protesters hijacked the demonstration. A spokesman for the Athens police

said Monday that 74 people had been arrested and another 92 briefly detained, after scores of violent protesters scuffled with police and hurled Molotov cocktails into buildings.

The spokesman said that 104 police officers had been injured in the riots, but gave no injury figures for demonstrators, though the ambulance service said there had been dozens.

As he stood in a smoldering shopping arcade, Dimitris Arvinatis, 56, a doorman, described how rioters tore open the steel shutters of shops and threw in a series of Molotov cocktails. "It felt like war," he said. "I could not believe I was in Athens. I have never seen this in my almost 60 years of life, and I have been working here all my life."

American active on Internet recounts beating in China

By Andrew Jacobs
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Chinese Communist Party has long felt threatened by overseas websites and social media outlets, but the recent detention of a California physicist who says he was beaten by Chinese security agents seeking the password for his Twitter account suggests how far the government will go in its battle against a freewheeling Internet.

The man, Ge Xun, 53, a naturalized U.S. citizen who moved to the United States from China in 1986,

said he was abducted from a street in Beijing this month and was roughly questioned by public security officers at a secret location. During 21 hours of interrogation, Ge said, the agents peppered him with questions about his blogging activity, his membership in an organization that promotes dialogue between Tibetans and Chinese and his role in maintaining a website that supports a blind lawyer living under house arrest in China's rural northeast.

But Ge's greatest sin, it appears, was his zealous embrace of Twitter, which has long been blocked in Chi-

na along with Facebook, YouTube, and other websites that the government deems a threat to its hold on power. In the end, Ge and his captors came up with a compromise: He did not reveal his password but logged on to Twitter and allowed them to peek inside his account. "The truth is I have nothing to hide," he said.

Although Ge was released and promptly deported on Feb. 2, the incident highlights the risks that foreign passport holders of Chinese origin face when ensnared by China's nebulous and omnipotent public security apparatus.

UConn's new athletic director faces immediate challenges

Warde J. Manuel, who raised expectations on the playing field and in the classroom in six years as the athletic director at Buffalo, was introduced Monday as Connecticut's new AD at a time when the Huskies' Men's Basketball team is dealing with the fallout from academic issues and the health concerns of its Hall of Fame coach, Jim Calhoun.

"There are some tough issues to deal with, things you have to think about and work through," Manuel, 43, said in telephone interview. "But it's a challenge and a great place, and I'm really glad I was selected."

The Huskies are prohibited from competing in the 2013 NCAA tournament because of below-standard academic results. Colleges must have a two-year average score of 930 or a four-year average of 900 on the Academic Progress Rate, which measures athletes' academic performance. The Huskies, who scored 826 for the 2009-10 academic year, may not make the cut for those two- and four-year averages and could face more penalties.

—Mark Viera, *The New York Times*

Britain releases militant preacher

LONDON — Abu Qatada, a militant Islamic preacher held without charge for more than six years as a threat to Britain's national security, was released from prison Monday night after an immigration judge signed off on strict bail conditions earlier in the day.

The conditions, the tightest permitted under British law, include a 22-hour-a-day curfew for the Jordanian-born preacher, whose real name is Omar Mahmoud Mohammed Othman. They bar him from traveling beyond his home neighborhood and using cellphones, the Internet and public transportation.

They also prohibit him from attending mosques or accompanying any of his five children from his London home to school, and they allow him to meet visitors only if they have been vetted by the police.

Television channels across Britain showed Othman hiding his face in the back of a van that was leaving the Long Lartin maximum-security prison in Worcestershire around 9:15 p.m. Monday.

The developments were the latest in a long-running case that has inflamed politicians and public opinion in Britain and turned Othman, 51, into a symbol of Britain's difficulties in dealing with a pervasive network of Islamic militants with cells in many of the country's largest cities.

Officials have said that the cost to British taxpayers in the case, including legal aid for Othman's lawsuits and welfare support for his family, have exceeded 500,000 pounds, or about \$790,000.

—John F. Burns, *The New York Times*

thinking about
global poverty?

this is OUR crisis

Wed
Feb 15th
@ 8:00

56-114
join us

gpi
at MIT

FREE
FRO-YO?!

Organize and publicize
events with speakers like
Roger Thurow or Jeffrey
Sachs

develop and teach
STEM education
modules about low
cost technologies for
Boston high schoolers

plan and participate
in summer/IAP service
trips to survey and
build greenhouses in
Mexico or
help domestic workers
in India



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Brass Rat revealed at Ring Premiere

Ring design introduced at premiere to excited crowd of sophomores

Brass Rat, from Page 1

least three groups of sorority girls dressed in matching T-shirts and jackets, holding posters, ready to scream in support of their Ring Committee members. This later became a good-natured, albeit lengthy, competition of yelling stamina when two RingComm members from different sororities approached the podium at the same time.

The 11 members of the Class of 2014 RingComm walked onto the stage in their black, red-accented attire. RingComm Chair Ishaan Kumar '14 and Vice Chair Daniela M. Yuschenko '14 welcomed us to Ring Premiere, and then the other members presented various aspects of the ring in pairs. There was a video of a trip to Balfour, which showed us the process of making a Brass Rat without revealing any of the designs.

Interspersed between reveal-

ing aspects of our Brass Rats were lotteries for free rings, a replica of a brick in Fenway a special 2014 compass, and a dinner with President Susan J. Hockfield. The Boston skyline, Cambridge skyline, seal shank, and class shank were all shown and unique features explained.

My first thought was 'Wow, that's an awfully vicious looking beaver'

Finally, they presented us with the most anticipated part: the bezel design. When the beaver appeared on the screen, my first thought was, "Wow, that's an awfully vicious-looking beaver ..." Due to my avid reading of old Ring Premiere stories, I immediately suspected that this was our de-

coy bezel. However, I suspended disbelief, as I really wanted to be pleased with RingComm's design — just in case it was not a decoy.

By the time a brain and a dripping dagger appeared in Fake Beaver's paws, most people started suspecting deception, if they had not already known of the decoy tradition.

When RingComm finished presenting the fake bezel and moved onto the real one, someone yelled, "Aww, I liked that one!" to much laughter. I don't know if it was in part due to my gratefulness that the hilarious bezel was fake, but I found myself growing fonder of the real bezel design with each detail that was revealed. The real beaver's hands held a 2014 compass pointing towards MIT and a candle-screw with a C-shaped flame, signifying the 100th birthday of our mascot in 2014. And in contrast to the fake, unnervingly aggressive beaver, our beaver seemed to cheesily smile on us

benevolently, with IHTFP discreetly marked into its tail.

Afterward, our plan to grab gift bags and then escape the mob worked well — mostly. Upon successfully grabbing our bags early, we turned around to find ourselves trapped by a huge shuffling blob of our fellow 2014s, all eager to get our Ring Premiere shot glasses and T-shirts. Those with purple tickets were given a free engraved cherry ring box as their gift.

Despite multiple attempts at squashing my distracting excitement about our ring over the weekend, early yesterday morning found me in line in Lobby 13. I anxiously waited to see the bright, shiny Brass Rat on my finger, if only for a few seconds — for now.

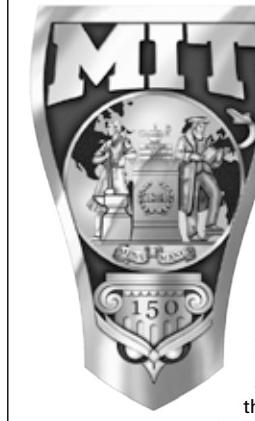
Sophomores can size and order rings in Lobby 13 over the coming two weeks. Rings will be distributed at the May 11 Ring Delivery at the John Joseph Moakley United States Court House in Boston.



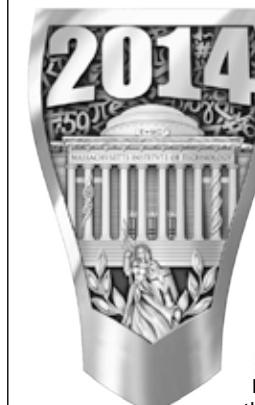
Hidden within its tail is our unofficial motto, "IHTFP," and hidden within these letters is a "14," one of fourteen "14's" represented on our Brass Rat. Our Beaver holds two items in his hands — the first is a compass. The compass guides us Northward toward MIT, reminding us that no matter how far we go, we must remember our starting point at the Institute. Inscribed on the lid of the compass is a symbol that reads out as "2014." In our Beaver's right hand is a candle with a screw protruding from the bottom. The flame represents knowledge and intelligence; it also forms a "C" to commemorate the 100th birthday of our Beaver mascot that will occur in 2014 and to honor the recent passing of Dennis Ritchie, the inventor of C programming. The screw embodies both our commitment to a hands-on learning style and the way many students feel on a weekly basis. Together, the screw and the bright flame represent our official motto, Mens et manus.

Sitting on eight Ivy leaves to confirm MIT's academic dominance, our Beaver builds the Mass Ave Bridge using the sticks from his dam. He builds outward from MIT, using the materials provided to him to expand to the rest of the world. The Roman numerals "XIV" appear amongst these sticks, and the 214th Smoot can be seen on the bridge, with a small zero added to make a "2014" as it appears on the actual bridge.

The backdrop of our bezel features fourteen buildings in a perspective of Boston and Cambridge that has not appeared in any previous Brass Rat. On display in the Charles River is the MIT float from the FAST light show. Appearing at the top of the Green Building is an apple to commemorate the passing of Steve Jobs. Above the Longfellow Bridge is the moon, depicted in the same phase that it will be on the night of our graduation in June 2014. In the Boston skyline, one of the building's spires has been transformed into a champagne saucer, as our class was the last to have Professor Sadoway teach 3.091. Finally, a cue stick can be seen in the Hancock Tower, a tribute to the first hack many of us saw at MIT, the upside-down lounge that occurred during our CPW.



The flames from the lamp on the seal form a "14." A space shuttle orbits the globe, symbolizing the retirement of the revered NASA space shuttle program and the 100th anniversary of Course 16 at MIT that will occur in 2014. All of this rests upon a pillar engraved with the number 150 in honor of the yearlong celebration of the Institute's anniversary during our freshmen year. A fierce owl, the symbol of our Athena system, rests at the bottom of the shank. An open book, embodying the freedom of knowledge at MIT, forms the owl's brow. Looking closely, one can see the Roman numerals X, I and V in the owl's brow and beak, making another "14."



Fourteen crown molding marks wrap around the Dome, while the numerals MCMXVI have been replaced by E=mc2 to commemorate the claim that the neutrino had broken the speed of light. Snow covers the building, symbolic of the snow day during our freshman IAP. Spiraling around the outside columns are a strand of DNA and a string of binary to represent the recent merger of Courses 6 and 7 to form the new Computer Science and Molecular Biology major. The DNA strand on the left forms a 6 and a 7, while the strand on the right reads "14" in binary. The goddess Athena stands in Killian Court, the feathers on the spear that she grasps make a "14," and the goddess displays the right hand rule. "Punt" and "Tool" can be seen in the veins of the laurel wreath that surrounds Athena. Behind the dome is a patchwork of symbols, much like those found on the statue outside the student center. A 59 can be seen on the left side celebrating the number of countries represented in our class; the pi symbol to the right recalls the day many learned of our admission to MIT. Finally, an awareness ribbon to the right recognizes the first Relay for Life at MIT.



Several well-known MIT buildings are embossed on the Cambridge skyline, which appears during the day, when students spend the most of their time on campus. Lights can finally be seen in the newly opened Maseeh Hall, and their pattern forms a "14." The Green Building windows feature the number "147" in binary, as we are the 147th graduating class. To the right is Walker Memorial, the infamous building that has become synonymous with test taking during our undergraduate careers. Opened during our freshmen year, the Koch Institute completes the buildings on the skyline. A sailboat, with a sail that makes a "14," appears in the Charles River on the left. Engraved on the right side are two crew shells, with one rower and four rowers to make a "14." The single rower wears a Charlie Hat as a tribute to the inclusion of the Charlie Card on the 2014 student IDs, the first time this was done at MIT.

Keeping with tradition, the side of the 2014 Brass Rat depicts the skyline of Boston as observed from MIT, with the Hancock Tower and the Prudential Center as two of the most distinctive buildings. Fenway Park also figures prominently on the skyline to honor the 100th anniversary of the stadium during our Sophomore year and to recognize the brick that will be placed there to commemorate our Brass Rat. The city appears as it would at night since this is the sight many students see while pset-ing at late hours; the night also reminds us of how Boston can serve as an escape from MIT on the weekends. A firework appears in the skyline to celebrate the Stanley Cup victory of our hometown Bruins.

TEXT AND GRAPHICS COURTESY OF THE 2014 RING COMMITTEE, <HTTP://CLASSOF2014.MIT.EDU/RING/DESIGN.HTML>.



CORRECTIONS

A Feb. 10 article about Chipotle incorrectly gave Jeffrey Warren's class year as 2015. He is a 2014.

Techfair popular

60 companies attend the event; over 30 student projects displayed

Techfair, from Page 1

said. "MIT's commitment to finding jobs for students doesn't support those who are not Course 6 or 2."

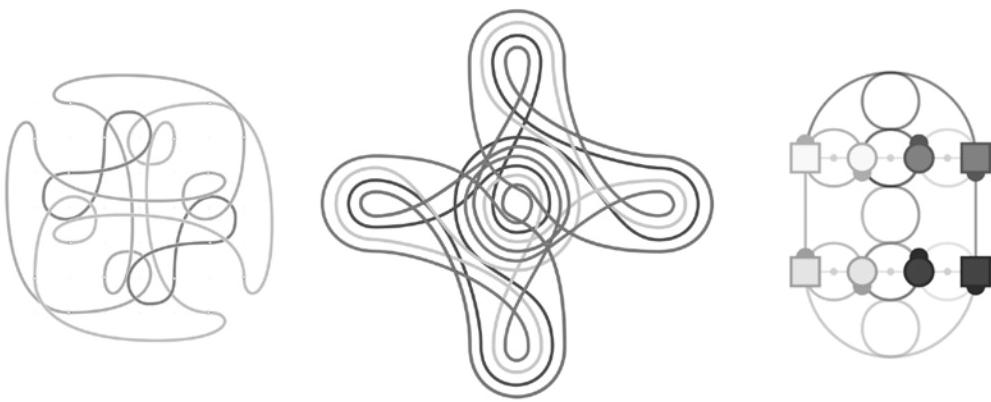
There is a challenge in 'balancing [the group's] vision and the needs of [the group's] sponsors.'

Fu admits there is a challenge in "balancing [the group's] vision

and the needs of [the group's] sponsors, who want to connect to students." Unlike the annual fall Career Fair, Techfair does not organize interviews or company information sessions. Companies who want more interaction with students are invited to run tech-focused side events. For instance, Facebook sponsored a Hack-a-thon and Microsoft sponsored an afterparty with Kinect games.

For students hoping to work for Lytro, there may be hope yet. In light of all the interest, Techfair convinced Cheng that he should take advantage of MIT students' talents. Now, the company is considering internships.

Dance this:



© Brad Christie

Tuesdays at 8

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Spring class starts 2/14

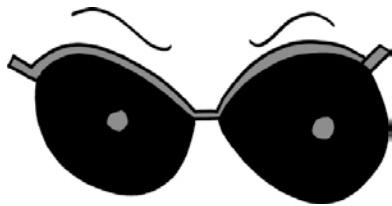
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SMBC, from Page 10

Solution to Crossword

from page 10

O	F	F	E	R	E	D	C	A	S	T	O	F	F
R	I	O	L	O	B	O	O	C	E	A	N	I	A
E	R	O	S	I	N	O	S	T	A	P	L	E	R
G	E	L	L	O	O	S	E	S	T	E	L	M	
A	B	E	T	K	R	O	C	S	H	A	D	E	
N	O	R	A	D	S	W	A	P	O	V	E	R	
O	X	Y	G	E	N	S	N	A	R	L	E	R	S
S	N	A	G		T	I	E						
S	T	R	A	D	O	G	R	E	T	R	A	D	
H	E	A	L	A	A	S	L	E	V	E	E		
I	N	T	E	L	F	L	A	P	R	O	C	K	
P	S	I	A	P	P	A	L	S	C	O	L		
P	I	N	E	T	A	R	M	A	N	C	A	V	E
E	L	G	R	E	C	O	N	O	R	D	R		
D	E	S	E	R	T	S	N	E	W	Y	O	R	K

Solution to Sudoku

from page 10

3	5	2	9	7	4	8	1	6
1	7	9	2	6	8	4	3	5
4	6	8	3	1	5	7	2	9
2	3	7	8	4	9	5	6	1
6	4	5	1	2	3	9	7	8
8	9	1	6	5	7	3	4	2
7	2	4	5	9	6	1	8	3
5	8	6	7	3	1	2	9	4
9	1	3	4	8	2	6	5	7

Solution to Techdoku

from page 10

4	1	2	5	6	3
5	2	3	6	1	4
6	3	4	1	2	5
3	6	1	4	5	2
1	4	5	2	3	6
2	5	6	3	4	1

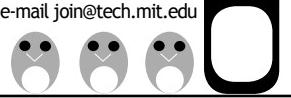
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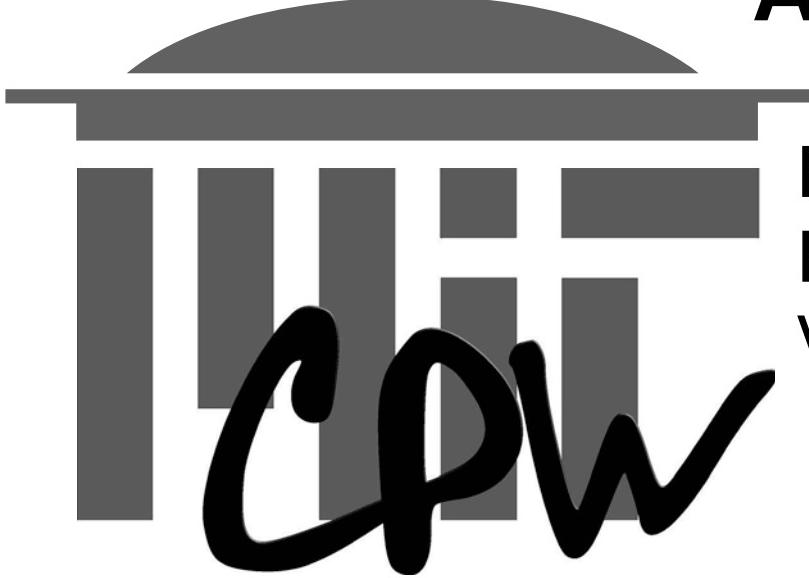


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CHRISTOPHER A. MAYNOR—THE TECH
The final project of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Design Seminar (17.922) was on display in Lobby 10 on Friday. The exhibit, which highlights issues including racial discrimination and economic disparity, will be up through Thursday.

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MIT Hillel הילל

Google cleared for Motorola Mobility acquisition

By James Kanter
and David Streifeld
THE NEW YORK TIMES

U.S. and European antitrust regulators on Monday approved Google's acquisition of the cellphone maker Motorola Mobility without formal conditions, paving the way for the search giant to compete directly with its new archrival, Apple.

The deal, worth \$12.5 billion, still needs a few more regional approvals but has cleared the biggest hurdles. It would bring Google 19,000 new employees, the lower margins of a manufacturing enterprise, and the challenge of extending its very successful cellphone software business.

Google's Android operating system is in more than four out of 10 new smartphones, but the dominant single company in the industry remains Apple and its iPhone. Google is likely to use Motorola to show other Android makers how it thinks phones should be built — by, for instance, more tightly integrating such Google-centric features as Google Wallet.

Approval of the deal had been widely expected. The only discordant note: Europe warned that Google should play fair in markets for smartphones and tablet computers. Google shares rose \$6.29 Monday to close at \$612.20.

The Justice Department separately announced that it was closing three investigations at the same time: Google's purchase of Motorola; the purchase by Apple, Microsoft, and Research in Motion of certain patents from the bankrupt Nortel Networks; and Apple's purchase of certain Novell patents.

The purchases are "unlikely to substantially lessen competition,"

the Justice Department said in a statement.

Barclays Capital, in a report on Google released on Monday, said that Motorola's mobile devices business was probably losing market share, but that its extensive patent portfolio would allow Google

to better protect Android. It also will give Google access to the living room through Motorola's set-top box business. Google is already working on a home entertainment device.

The deal comes at a time of heightened scrutiny by regula-

tors over ownership of intellectual property governing computers and mobile communications.

Joaquin Almunia, the European Union competition commissioner, indicated in a statement that he would be watching the sector. The decision "does not mean that the

merger clearance blesses all actions by Motorola in the past or all future action by Google," the statement said. He added that any action on "the question whether Motorola's or Google's conduct is compliant with EU antitrust law" would be taken separately.

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6.002x officially kicks off MITx online experiment

Circuits and Electronics class will be open to the whole world, will grant certificates

6.002x, from Page 1

The class begins on March 5 and runs through June 8. Students are expected to spend about 10 hours per week on 6.002x. Enrollment will not be limited, though Agarwal declined to say how popular he expected the course to be in a conference call last Friday.

Agarwal also teaches the on-campus 6.002 course, which is already piloting 15 MIT students on 6.002x. Students in this "experimental" section will complete the entire course online — including lectures, labs, assignments, and exams — and they will receive full credit for 6.002 and a letter grade, according to an email from Terman sent to stu-

dents preregistered for 6.002.

A discussion forum will allow 6.002x students to ask questions of each other and course staff, though 6.002 students in the experimental section will also have the opportunity to meet with TAs in-person.

One of the keys to the online course are simulated laboratories. While on-campus 6.002 students work directly with circuit boards and components, 6.002x students will run experiments on Javascript-based simulated circuits in their browsers, says Agarwal.

6.002x students must agree to an "honor code," which says that they will complete exams on their own and not "dishonestly improve my results, or improve or hurt those of others" (see sidebar). Certificates

of completion for 6.002x will mention that security was limited to an honor code in this iteration of the course.

6.002x students will run experiments on Javascript-based simulated circuits in their browsers.

"In the future, MITx will work towards more sophisticated forms of checking identity," said Agarwal.

Faculty response

At a faculty meeting last month,

and in the January/February Faculty Newsletter (FNL), faculty response to MITx has generally,

but not uniformly, been positive. Provost L. Rafael Reif, for instance, says he expects MITx to free up time for faculty to work one-on-one with students instead of lecturing, but the FNL's editorial offered a counterpoint: "One senior faculty member speculated that going online, with a global component, will be 1,000 times more work than writing a book. It was not clear if he was using hyperbole."

The editorial board — Nazli Choucri, Gordon M. Kaufman, Jonathan Alan King, and Patrick Henry Winston '65 — also said that MITx has the potential to dramatically change education for the better, but faculty will need to more carefully differentiate an on-campus experience from online.

Also in the current FNL, Mechanical Engineering Professor Emeritus Woodie Flowers PhD '73 wrote that MITx may be driven by misplaced motivations. "As was the case for OCW discussions, holding the for-profit world at bay seems to be one of the unwritten strategic goals of MITx," he said. "One also hears whispers about getting ahead of other great universities."

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 - Maintain only one user account and not let anyone else use my username and/or password.
 - Not engage in any activity that would dishonestly improve my results, or improve or hurt the results of others.
 - Not post answers to problems that are being used to assess student performance.
- Unless otherwise indicated by the instructor of an MITx course, learners on MITx are encouraged to:
- Collaborate with others on the lecture videos, exercises, homework and labs.
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 - Present ideas and written work to fellow MITx learners or others for comment or criticism.

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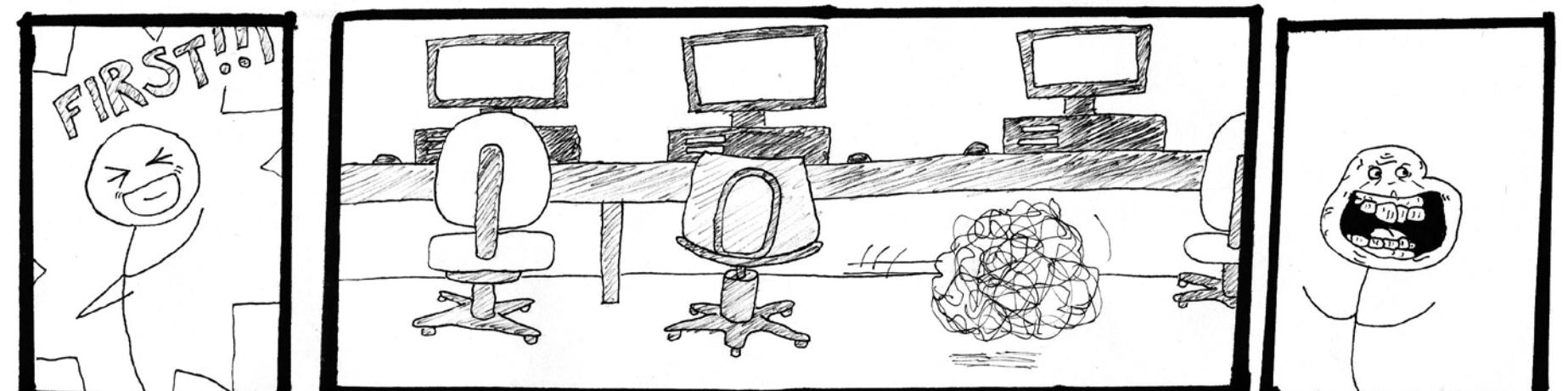
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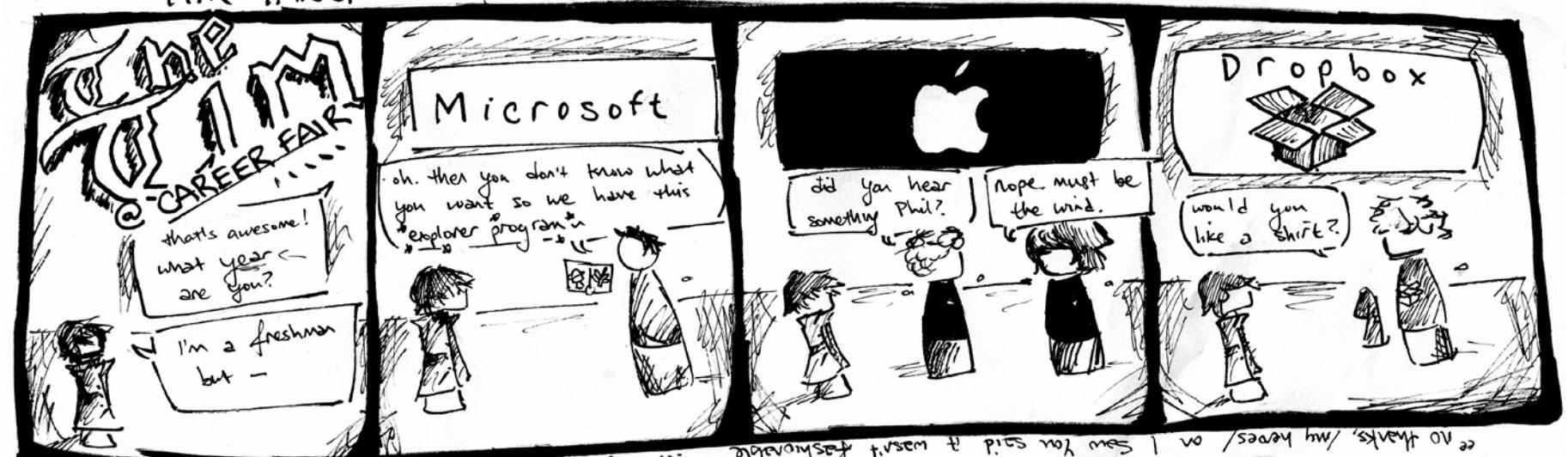
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Least Action Principle by Amanda Aparicio



TIM YANG



Saturday Stumper

Solution, page 9

By Lester Ruff

- | ACROSS | |
|---|--|
| 1 Put forth | 51 Floodplain feature |
| 8 Discarded | 52 Foe info |
| 15 John Wayne film of 1970 | 54 Hoo-ha |
| 16 New Zealand's region | 56 Hard stuff |
| 17 Environmental removal | 57 Frat letter |
| 18 Office machine | 58 Disappoints, and then
some |
| 19 Part of some medicine-
delivery systems | 61 NL team |
| 20 Least rigid | 62 Wood preservative |
| 22 Rose cousin | 64 Basement with a bar,
maybe |
| 23 Further wrongdoing | 66 Giant of the Spanish
Renaissance |
| 25 He bought out the
McDonald brothers | 67 To be filled shortly |
| 26 Little bit | 68 Rainforests' opposites |
| 28 RCAF/USAF joint venture | 69 Only state with two Ivy
League schools |
| 30 Give and take | |
| 32 Ended | |
| 33 O may stand for it | |
| 35 Some peeved pets | |
| 37 Bump in the road | |
| 39 Affiliations | |
| 40 It's picked up by the pound | |
| 44 Slow down | |
| 48 Get better | |
| 49 Hamlet's word of regret | |
| DOWN | |
| 1 Pizza topping | |
| 2 Source of some alarms | |
| 3 Nonsense | |
| 4 Lines like the London
Overground | |
| 5 Vex | |
| 6 Novel medium | |

- 7 PBS program credits
 - 8 Scientific calculator function
 - 9 Short or false shows
 - 10 Governmental centers
 - 11 Select
 - 12 Away for a while
 - 13 Diamond defenseman
 - 14 Pen holders
 - 21 Pen holdings
 - 24 Suburban sign subject
 - 27 Cell-phone accessory
 - 29 Repudiate
 - 31 Small set
 - 34 Another word for love
 - 36 Rotatory device
 - 38 Course teachers
 - 40 Sent
 - 41 Stretchable
 - 42 Network concern
 - 43 Festive
 - 45 Good source of potassium
 - 46 Get better
 - 47 Peace Prize sharer of '93
 - 50 Shade of pink
 - 53 By and by
 - 55 Two-dimensional

A crossword puzzle grid consisting of a 14x14 grid of squares. The grid contains several black squares representing empty or non-letter spaces. Numerical labels are placed in some of the white squares, indicating their word length. The labels include: Row 1: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14. Row 2: 15, 16. Row 3: 17, 18. Row 4: 19, 20, 21, 22. Row 5: 23, 24, 25, 26, 27. Row 6: 28, 29, 30, 31, 32. Row 7: 33, 34, 35, 36. Row 8: 37, 38, 39. Row 9: 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47. Row 10: 48, 49, 50, 51. Row 11: 52, 53, 54, 55, 56. Row 12: 57, 58, 59, 60, 61. Row 13: 62, 63, 64, 65. Row 14: 66, 67. Row 15: 68, 69.

59 Something shaken on
60 Wet blanket

63 Homophone for heir
65 Call out



Sudoku

Solution, page 5

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Techdoku

Solution, page 5

$8x$		$22+$			
$30x$		$12x$		$5+$	
	$72x$		$20x$		
3		$5x$	$20x$		
1			$24x$		$5-$
$7+$		$3-$			

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Men's Basketball defeats Clark, 63-60

Engineers rake in another win

By Greg McKeever
DAPER STAFF

No. 5 MIT withstood a late rally by Clark University to win, 63-60, in overtime in the NEWMACs conference game.

With the win, the Engineers improve to 10-1 in the conference and secure their second NEWMAC regular season title in three years. MIT's 22nd victory in 23 games this season ensures that it will host the conference semifinals and championship in two weeks.

The Engineers outscored the Cougars, 11-8, in the extra session to hold on after allowing Clark to come back from as many as 14-down in the second half. Clark, meanwhile, dropped its second straight overtime game this week to slip to 10-12 overall and 3-7 in league play.

Junior Mitchell H. Kates once again led MIT with 16 points to go along with five assists. Senior William E. Bender had 12 points including a key overtime three-pointer. Andrew M. Acker '15 came up big off the bench for the Cardinal and Gray with 11 points.

Bender's 3 with 16:30 to play gave MIT a 33-19 lead, its largest of the afternoon. Clark slowly chipped away at the margin, getting within four points, at 37-33,

but Kates scored four straight points and senior Daniel K. McCue knocked down a 3-ball to push the advantage back to double figures.

Another Kates layup at the 6:35 mark put Tech ahead by 11 points. Clark caught up to the Engineers and the teams exchanged baskets on the next two possessions before Clark made the second of two free throws to tie things at 52 with 32 seconds left. Neither team could convert at the end of regulation, sending the game into the extra session.

Noel Hollingsworth '12 opened the extra session with a layup and Renshaw responded with a jumper at the other end to tie the game at 54. Hollingsworth then found Bender, who knocked down a huge shot from long range, and Kates' steal and layup put the Cardinal and Gray on top by five. Clark would get back within one, thanks to a pair of trifectas, but the Engineers made free throws down the stretch to hold on for their first overtime victory of the season.

Tech held a 41-31 advantage on the boards, led by junior Will Tashman with 13 caroms, and outscored the Cougars, 28-20, in points in the paint.

MIT will return to Worcester for its final game of the regular season on Wednesday, Feb. 15, facing WPI at 7:00 p.m.

SPORTS SHORT

Engineers defeat Springfield College in a close battle, 51-50

On Saturday, the MIT Women's Basketball team made a remarkable comeback against Springfield College, winning 51-50. MIT has not beaten Springfield since 2003, and with this win they bring their record for the season to 10-12 (the highest since 2008). Springfield dominated the first half, with MIT trailing 27-17 at halftime. However, the Engineers were able to capitalize on Springfield's turnovers in the second half and outscored the Pride 34-23. This win was not sealed until the end — actually, until after

the clock had stopped. Alexis R. Isaac '15 made two free throws at the very end of the game to complete this comeback victory. Other notable players from the game include freshman Mari R. Kordell, who made 19 points to become the high scorer for the game, and Anna L. Merrifield '13 who had seven assists. The Engineers will play Wheaton on Wednesday to hopefully continue their NEWMAC winning streak.

—Sarah Weir, Sports Editor

Men's Track and Field team dominates at BU Invitational

MIT Engineers prepare for NEWMAC championship

By Greg McKeever

DAPER STAFF

This weekend, the No. 14 ranked MIT Men's Track and Field team competed in a pair of nonscoring invitational meets, one at home and another across the river at Boston University. The Engineers were focused on posting strong individual performances just a week ahead of the New England Division III championship.

The Tech relays accomplished this goal and more at the very fast BU track on Saturday. The 4x400 relay of junior Patrick K. Marx, sophomores Tyler S. Singer-Clark and Brian M. Gager, and freshman Nicholas A. Diamantoni finished in 3:18.75, their best on the season and the third-fastest in Division III on the season.

Marx also joined David H. Way '13, Justin L. Bullock '14, and Chadd T. Kiggins '15 in the distance medley relay, placing fifth overall with a time of 9:55.71. Their season-best time ranks third in the country this season.

Kyle J. Hannon '13 set a new personal best in the mile, finishing in 4:09.79, the second-fastest time in Institute history and the fourth in Division III this year.

Marx completed his busy afternoon in the 800-meter, running a season-best of 1:52.86, which ranks him fifth on the NCAA performance list. Kiggins reached

a new personal best in the event, finishing in 1:54.57, which would be good for 17th in the country.

Gager and Way had personal best times at 500 meters. Gager was 15th overall at 1:05.99 while Way was not far behind, coming through in 1:06.21. Bullock, 2:28.20, and senior Stephen R. Serene, 2:30.09, also recorded personal bests in the 1000-meter.

Joshua D. Duncavage '13 and Singer-Clark each ran well in the 200-meter, with times of 22.60 seconds and 23.04 seconds, respectively. Singer-Clark came back in the 400, recording a season best at 50.08 seconds.

Senior Nathan E. Peterson placed second in the pole vault, clearing 15-3 feet. Benjamin J. Schreck '15 cleared 14-1 1/4 feet as well.

Back at home, some of the highlights included Chinendum K. Umachi '12 winning the weight throw with a 63-7-foot effort, a season-best and good for fourth-place in the NCAA. Matthew D. Falk '12 led a group of three Engineers to finish in the top five of the high jump. Falk cleared 6-3 1/4 feet to finish second. John B. Thomas '15 was third and Sheldon N. Trotman '15 placed fifth. Trotman also took fourth-place in the long jump at 19 3/4 feet.

The Engineers will look to win their third straight regional title at next weekend's New England Division III championship at Springfield College. Tech passed Williams College in the final event last year to capture the team championship.



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CSAIL
MIT COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LABORATORY

2011-2012 Dertouzos Lecture Series

Date: Thursday, February 16, 2012
Venue: MIT Stata Center, Building 32-123/Kirsch Auditorium
Time: 4:00PM (refreshments at 3:45PM)

Experiments in Social Computation

Abstract: What do the theory of computation, economics and related fields have to say about the emerging phenomena of crowdsourcing and social computing? Most successful applications of crowdsourcing to date have been on problems we might consider "embarrassingly parallelizable" from a computational perspective. But the power of the social computation approach is already evident, and the road cleared for applying it to more challenging problems.

In part towards this goal, for a number of years we have been conducting controlled human-subject experiments in distributed social computation in networks with only limited and local communication. These experiments cast a number of traditional computational problems - including graph coloring, consensus, independent set, market equilibria, biased voting and network formation - as games of strategic interaction in which subjects have financial incentives to collectively "compute" global solutions. I will overview and summarize the many behavioral findings from this line of experimentation, and draw broad comparisons to some of the predictions made by the theory of computation and microeconomics.

Biography: Michael Kearns is a professor of Computer and Information Science at the University of Pennsylvania, where he is the director of the new Penn program in Market and Social Systems Engineering (www.mkse.upenn.edu). His research interests include topics in machine learning, algorithmic game theory, social networks, computational finance and artificial intelligence. More information is available at www.cis.upenn.edu/~mkearns.

Host: Anant Agarwal, CSAIL

For more information: www.csail.mit.edu or 617.253.0145

